Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SPC-03 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-10 RSC-01

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 FS-01

ABF-01 FBO-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00

XMB-07 OPIC-12 DRC-01 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 (ISO) W ------ 102226

R 111435Z DEC 73 FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8414 INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY AMCONSUL CALCUTTA AMCONSUL MADRAS

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EFIN, IN

SUBJ: RUPEES: PRESS COVERAGE PXREF: NEW DELHI 14475

- 1. THE IMMINENT INITIALPWG OF THE AGREEMENT ON THE DISPOSITION OF U.S.-OWNED RUPEES GENERATED BY PL 480 AND OTHER FORMS OF U.S. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN FRONT PAGE NEWS IN THE INDIAN PRESS FOR THE LAST THREE DAYS. STORIES IN SUNDAY'S AND MONDAY'S PAPERS WERE BY WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENTS OF INDIAN NEWSPAPERS. ALTHOUGH NONE OF THE REPORTS SAYS SO, THE STORIES GIVE EVERY INDICATION OF HAVING BEEN BASED ON A BRIEFING BY AMBASSADOR KAUL SUBSEQUENT TO HIS MEETCG WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER. AS NOTED IN REFTEL THESE ARTICLES, WHICH WERE UNSPECIFIC ABOUT THE NATURE OF THE AGREEMENT, TREATED IT AS A PRELUDE TO FAR REACHING INITIATIVES IN INDIAN-U.S. RELATIONS.
- 2. THE ARTICLES IN TUESDAY'S PAPERS FOLLOW REPORTED CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT HENDAY NIGHT BY THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE OF THE CABINET. THE ACCURACY

OF THE ARTICLE IS GENERALLY INVERSELY RELATED TO THEIR LENGTH. SOME MISSTATEMENTS ARE TRIVIAL, E.G., AGREEMENT WAS DELAYED BY THE BYRD AMENDMENT, BUT OTHERS ARE SIGNIFICANT, ESPECIALLY THE REPORT IN THE HINDUSTAN TIMES THAT "INDIA WILL HAVE TO REPAY ROUGHLY RS. 400 CRORES (DOLS 533 MILLION) IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE". HOPEFULLY, THE RECORD WILL GET STRAIGHTENED OUT IN THE COVERAGE ATTENDENT ON INITIALING, WHICH WE EXPECT TO BE EXTENSIVE. MOYNIHAN

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Message Attributes

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